

UTLA Strike: Day 3

3 messages

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Wed, Jan 16, 2019 at 9:53 PM

Dear New LA Board,

Today marked Day 3 of the UTLA strike. Tonight, I am sharing an update on the situation at large, picketing at New LA Elementary, and a note about staff moral across the organization. While there have been protests at several independent charters, it is important to note that the Middle School has yet to experience protest activity.

Update on the Strike

UTLA has increased their anti-charter rhetoric and have called for a cap on charter schools. They held a rally outside of the CCSA office on Tuesday. They have a rally planned for Friday, indicating that the strike will continue through this week. UTLA and LAUSD have not returned to the bargaining table at this point.

Update on New LA Elementary

Picketing activity continues at the Elementary School. LAPD was present this morning, and they have advised Baldwin Hills teachers that they are not permitted to circle our parking lot entrance and block traffic. The picket line was extended to allow some access to our lot; however, we continue to use the Baldwin Hills Rec Center lot to prevent engagement with protestors. While there have been a few minor incidents this week, the situation remains under control.

Staff Moral at New LA

I will conclude by sharing that the highlight of my week so far has been attending faculty meetings to talk with teachers about how I hope to work with them as Executive Director. Despite what is happening across the city, our teachers were delighting in stories about the ways in which their students have grown since the beginning of the year. My talk went well, and our staff is clear that New LA continues to be an organization that honors teachers. After a day of dealing with the strike and our local public education crisis, being at a New LA faculty meeting was the perfect medicine. We are fortunate to have such an amazing group of professionals in our classrooms.

Best wishes,
Brooke

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You're doing amazing! I hope you have some serious self care plans this weekend!
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